

Minutes of the Health & Human Services Committee
Thursday, September 11, 2003

Chair Herro called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisors Ken Herro (Chair), Jim Jeskewitz, Paul Pronold, Carl Seitz, Mareth Kipp, Alicia Silva and Sandi Wolff. Supervisor Silva arrived at 1:40 p.m. Supervisor Pronold left at 2:44 p.m. Supervisor Kipp left at 3:46 p.m. Supervisor Wolff left at 4:30 p.m.

Also Present: Chief of Staff Lee Esler, Senior Services Director Cathy Bellovary, Programs and Projects Analyst Barbara Woyak, Senior Financial Analyst Steve Krafcheck, Criminal Justice Collaborating Council Coordinator Michelle Cyrulik, Operations Manager Mike Mortell, W-2 Regional Director Gary Rudzianis, Director of W-2 Operations Jane Batha, Long Term Care Manager Jack Bodien, Offices Services Coordinator Windy Jicha.

Approve Minutes of July 31, 2003

MOTION: Kipp moved, Jeskewitz second, to approve the minutes of July 31, 2003. **Motion carried:** 6-0.

Future Meeting Dates

There could be a committee meeting on September 25, 2003. The committee will be kept informed.

Update on Executive Committee

Herro advised of the following issues discussed at the last Executive Committee meeting.

- Late tax appeals
- Ordinance 158-O-061: Suspend Section 11-4, Waukesha County Code of Ordinances Governing Funding for Federated Library System
- Capital Projects Plans relative to Information Systems, Parks and Land Use, Department of Public Works Transportation Projects

Tour the Workforce Development Center

Mortell gave background and history of the Workforce Development Center and showed a video. He handed out several public relations pieces and then answered questions from committee members regarding operations at the center, people served, types of programs, resources, the future of the center, etc.

Supervisor Silva arrived at 1:40 p.m.

The committee toured the facility.

Future Agenda Items

- Discuss Mental Health Parity Legislation with Department of Administration and Health & Human Services Staff

Update on W-2

Batha and Rudzianis were present to give an update on W-2. Rudzianis said due to the economy, the number of people requesting aid is increasing. In 1992, 1,903 families requested economic support including food stamps and medical assistance, 1,711 in 1998, 1,808 in 1999, 2,286 in 2000, 2,886 in 2001, 3,677 in 2002 and 4,201 as of May 2003. Some of the increase is directly related to the elevated

eligibility limits set by the State of Wisconsin. A family of three making less than \$30,000 per year qualifies for both Medical Assistance and Food Stamps. Every two weeks, 15 new families are added to the rolls, which increases caseworkers' loads by one family. The number of cases continues to increase while the state continues to reduce program funding. Year-to-date, Waukesha County has 4,500 cases.

Esler asked what is the work effort in qualifying someone for benefits versus working with a pre-established case? Rudzianis said intake appointments takes the most time. There's a rotating intake schedule so all case managers handle intakes equally. Rudzianis said Medical Assistance cases take the least amount of time while Food Stamps take the most. Childcare cases generally are in the middle but it does vary depending on case. Moms with children under three months are exempt from working.

Rudzianis said all Wisconsin counties are experiencing increases. The problem with caseload increases is that customer service goes down and error rates increase. The county can suffer fiscal penalties for certain types of errors.

Bodien said participants need to contact their caseworker every time there's a change in income or childcare needs. If someone's case stays the same, they will have fewer contacts with their worker. Some people need to contact their worker every week. Batha said some people don't want the hassle and drop out of the programs.

Bodien said Waukesha County doesn't have a huge amount of fraud. Usually there are reporting mistakes that are not intentional. When determining how much verification needs to be done by customers, you need to weigh the small amount of fraud against the verification workload.

Rudzianis said you have to remember that these are working families who don't have the time to come into the center to report changes. Sometimes childcare and medical assistance makes all the difference to help families continue to work. Approximately 2% of the families in Waukesha County receive cash payments. In 1995 the monthly payout was slightly under \$500,000 per month. In June 2000 the monthly payout was \$15,604 and in June 2003, the monthly payout was \$57,891. The current average allocation per family is between \$673-\$628. In order to receive payments, families need to complete 30 hours per month of community service. The skyrocketing numbers are alarming. Rudzianis said potentially, the program is under-funded. They are looking down the road hoping things will change to more regular allocations. W2 is for people 115% above the poverty level. These people are poor and have the most challenges.

Rudzianis said when W2, grants went down, we invested the dollars in services such as Children First. Children First follows the same rules as W2 and applies them to the non-custodial parent, usually the dads. If the dad is not working, they make him go to work and pay child support. In 2002, 336 non-custodial parents were enrolled and in 2003 year-to-date there were 226 enrollments in this program. The retention rate for this program is 65-63% with wages of \$612-\$488 per month. This program will be cut by two-thirds next year if the money is not there. In 2004, we will only budget for 100-150 cases.

Supervisor Pronold left the meeting at 2:44 p.m.

Review Programming and Funding Sources within the Long Term Care Division

Bodien and Messinger were present to discuss the programming and funding sources within the Long Term Care Division. Bodien passed out and reviewed a packet of information which included the 2003 budget for Long-Term Care, copies of the state statutes driving the programs, basic Long Term Care Division information, a pamphlet and report on elder abuse, SSI payment rates, etc. The Long Term Care Division 2003 budget accounts for 52% (\$27,021,136), of the department's revenues, 42% (\$28,829,651)

of the department's expenditures and 11% (\$1,808,515) of the department's tax levy. The programs found in the Long Term Care Division include: Adult Protective Services/Community Care, Developmental Disabilities Services and Community Integration/Options Services. Year-to-date, the Long Term Care Division has paid 399 different vendors for goods and services delivered to division clients. The division is staffed by 33.5 county employees and 11 contracted staff. All age groups are potentially eligible for long term care services but the majority are adults. The duration of services can be life long. Eligibility for long-term care services is based on diagnosis, functional ability, financial status and need, and can be court ordered. Waiting lists are established for many services.

Esler asked if we're projecting autistic clients to double in the next ten years? Why are we having this kind of growth in autism cases? Bodien said the research is inconclusive to date as to why these cases are increasing.

Supervisor Kipp left the meeting at 3:46 p.m.

Messinger said funding for these programs is very complex. If case managers get it wrong, the county stands the chance of getting audited with disallowances found. The last few audits have shown very few disallowances. It is very complex job and the staff does a good job.

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 158-O-062: Department of Senior Services to Accept Increases in 2003 Allocations for Older Americans Act Services

Woyak said the Department of Senior Services receives federal revenues that pass through the State Department of Health and Family Services for Older Americans Act services to provide a variety of programs and assistance to elderly county residents. This ordinance allows the Department of Senior Services to accept and receive additional funding allocations totaling \$11,159 in federal funding under the Older American grants from 2003.

Woyak said the additional Federal Older American Act funds will provide \$4,265 for additional respite opportunities for approximately six older adults and for ten pill dispensers (small equipment). \$2,888 will be used for postage costs for distribution of informational material and items from the Caregiver Resource Library, \$1,000 will be available for books, publications and demonstration items for the library and \$2,700 will be available for copy costs for caregiver information. The funds will also include \$500 for caregiver promotional items such as client reminders and disease prevention. The Federal Older American Act Title III-C funding of \$2,618 will provide \$1,440 for additional home delivered meals (397 meals) and \$1,178 for mileage reimbursement for meal delivery. This ordinance results in no additional direct tax levy impact.

Herro asked if the 2003 funding created any shortfalls? Woyak said the decreases were minor and didn't affect their programs. Herro asked why did we get extra funds? Woyak said this is the way the funds are allocated.

MOTION: Wolff moved, Jeskewitz second to approve Ordinance 158-O-062: Department of Senior Services to Accept Increases in 2003 Allocations for Older Americans Act Services. **Motion carried:** 5-0.

Amend the 2003 County Aging Unit Plan

Bellovary said this is the bookkeeping work for the ordinance that was just passed. This amendment puts money in the right slots and is an annual amendment.

MOTION: Jeskewitz moved, Silva second, to approve amendment of the 2003 County Aging Unit Plan. **Motion carried:** 5-0.

Update on the Criminal Justice Collaborating Council (CJCC)

Cyrulik and Gibson were present to give the update. Cyrulik passed out and reviewed the September 2003, Waukesha County CJCC Monthly Activity Report. The report gave an update on the following committees: Executive, Data and Information, Jail and Huber Utilization, Pretrial Subcommittee, Juvenile Justice and Programs and Alternatives. The Public Relations Committee has not yet met.

Supervisor Wolff left at 4:30 p.m.

Cyrulik said the Executive Committee is working with Wisconsin Community Services to implement the Pretrial Screening Program in the jail. This includes designing a screening instrument, developing procedures, meeting with justice partners and creating reports. Implementation is set for October 1. They received confirmation for Waukesha County to participate in the 2004 Drug and Alcohol Court Planning Initiative.

The Data and Information Committee has done some statistical analysis from the suite of reports available to the CJCC and county departments. They will continue to try to understand what is happening in the county. Eventually, the screeners will help with this process. In six months they expect to have some good answers.

Cyrulik said the Juvenile Justice and Programs and Alternative Committees are both in the process of mapping their individual systems. They want to map what happens when and where in each program and what's working. Programs and Alternatives Committee is mapping the mental health system of events from beginning to end. There has been very good involvement from all committee members. The Juvenile Justice Committee is developing a subcommittee focusing on juvenile restitution that will discuss juvenile restitution and make the process more uniform.

Motion to Adjourn

MOTION: Seitz moved, Jeskewitz second, to adjourn at 5:09 p.m. **Motion carried: 4-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Silva
Secretary